Maharashtra during the last three years is as follows:

Government drug addiction rehabilitation centres.

(in 000 MTs)

Commodities	Year		
	93-94	94-95	95-96
Rice	858	858	858
Wheat	960	960	960
Sugar	386.23	368.48	383.88
Imported Edible Oil	2.60	12.50	30.00
soft Coke/ CIL Coke	24.00	24.00	24.00

(c) to (e) Increase in allocation by 1 per cent over the allocation for the previous year is adopted for kerosene only. States having per capita availability of SKO less than national average, are given higher increase as to reduce the disparity in the availability of SKO among different States/UTs in course of time. Maharashtras per capita availability is much higher than the national average.

Treatment of sex workers having HIV infection in drug rehabilitation centers

1680. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sex workers who are HIV petients are not admitted in Government drug addiction rehabilitation centres for treatment; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to open separate centres for treatment of sex workers who test HIV Positive?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) According to the information made available by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, patients who are HIV positive whether they are sex workers or otherwise, are admitted for treatment in

Mining lease for chrome ore in sukhinda mines in Orissa

1681. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether close on the heels of the controversial mining lease of Bailadilla in Madhya Pradesh another mining lease for chrome ore in Sukhinda mines in Cuttack district of Orissa has been made;

(b) if so, the terms of the Sukhinda mining lease; and

(c) the procedure followed in granting the lease, indicating the details of competitive tenders received for this lease from different parties;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble High Court of Orissa disposed of writ petitions OJC No. 7729/93 and OJC No. 4701/94 filed by TISCO against orders of the Central Government conveying approval of 2nd renewal of mining lease for chromite over the reduced area in Sukhinda Vally of Orissa and a series of other writ petitions filed by other parties vide its common

judgement dated 4.4.1995 and other related orders and remanded the matter back to the Central Government with directions containing detailed guidelines for fresh consideration of the entire matter after duly giving an opportunity of hearing to TISCO and other parties in the writ petitions. In pursuance of this direction, the Ministry of Mines constituted a Committee with experts for hearing TISCO and other parties in accordance with the directions given by the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa. The Committee after hearing all the parties at length submitted a comprehensive Report to the Central Government. The Central Government after taking into consideration, the Report of the Committee and other relevant factors, passed speaking orders dated 17.8.1995. M/s. TISCO and some others had filed several Special Leave Petitions before Hon'ble Supreme Court against the judgement dated 4.4.1995 etc. of the Orissa High Court and the order dated 17.8.1995 of the Central Govt. After hearing the parties, Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed judgement on 23.7.1996. Hon'ble Supreme Court in their judgement referred to above have held inter-alia as follows:

> "We are, therefore, of the view that the Central Govt. was justified in issuing its order dated August 17, 1995.
>
> For the foregoing reasons, we are of the view that the High Court and the Committee were justified in the view they took. Consequently the appeals filed by TISCO stand dismissed. IDCOL has filed the appeals on much the same grounds as TISCO while additionally claiming that the Committee should have heard its claim too while hearing the other parties. Since we have heard them at length, the grievance does not survive. Hence, IDCOL's appeals must also fail. Cost, cost in the cause."

Any further action in the matter has to be taken in the light of the judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 23.7.1996.

Payment of arrears of dues to the sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh

1682. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Allahabad High Court has ordered U.P. Government to immediately release payment to sugarcane farmers of the State alongwith interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the sugarcane bounded by the sugar mills has not been crushed and several mills have already announced closure and khandsari crushers have closed operations as a result of which the farmers had no option but to destroy their crop;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action being taken by the Government to compensate farmers;

(e) whether the State Government has adopted dual policy with regard to payment made by sugar mills and Khandsari units; and

(f) if so, details of the difference and how the situation can be rectified;

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The High Court of Allahabad Lucknow bench has passed an order on 28.6.96 in writ petition No. 1720 MB of 1996 V.M. Singh Vrs. State of U.P. & Others inter alia directing the Cane Commissioner UP to ensure 75% of payment of the cane price for the cane supplied to the Sugar factories within 15 days from the date of service of the order. It has been further directed that in case of default, the amount should be recovered as arrears of land revenue with interest @ 12% per